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08 AUG 2002

Darryl Mexic SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MacPEAK & SEAS, P.L.L.C. 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Suite 800 Washington, DC 20037-3213

Dear Mr. Mexic:

This is in response to your letter received 10 May and 07 August 2002 inquiring about the status of U.S. patent application 09/936,160 filed 10 September 2001. The application is being processed by the U.S. Designated/Elected Office and an Office action will soon be issued.

Sincerely,

Nguyèn Maor Hô

Nguyên Ngoc-Hô Paralegal Specialist PCT Legal Office

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